

Anglim Gilbert Gallery



Drum Brush Drawing, 1995
Steel on sandpaper, 22" x 28"

TOM MARIONI

Birds In Flight

April 20 through May 28, 2016

Reception: Thursday April 21, 5:30 - 7:30pm

Anglim Gilbert Gallery

14 Geary Street, San Francisco CA 94108

Tel: 415.433.2710

Gallery Hours: Tues-Fri 10 - 5:30pm, Sat 10:30 - 5pm

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Anglim Gilbert Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition by conceptual artist **Tom Marioni**, *Birds in Flight*.

The gallery presentation will feature a range of works from his well-known series, *Drum Brush Drawings*, where Marioni creates marks by repeated strikes of metal drum brushes on a sandpaper sheet. *Drum Brush Drawings* can be seen as a hybrid of drawing and music. Over time, the automatic motion of the two brushes in his hands (also creating sounds, like that of a jazz drummer) results in a drawing: a shadowy V-motif in steel and a visual record of sound and performance. First created in 1972, Marioni's *Drum Brush Drawings* continue as signature works in his conceptual practice. More recently he has created them with graphite attached to bamboo, drumming on plaster to create a new form of fresco.

The artist will include his sculptural work, *Birds in Flight*, first created and shown in 1969. As a work that assigns completion and a performance to someone else (the curator, installer...) it addresses chance, discovery and participation:

BIRDS IN FLIGHT 1969

Enclosed is a packet of multicolored construction paper.

To install the sculpture, sit in a chair about ten feet from a wall.

Take one sheet at a time and crumple each one, as if you were in a hurry and throwing it into a wastepaper basket.

Throw each piece at the wall, trying to keep the pieces generally in a confined area.

The result should be multicolored birds at the moment of flight after being frightened by the stamping of feet.

Tom Marioni (born 1937) settled in San Francisco in 1959, becoming a central figure in the Bay Area Conceptual movement of the 1960's and 70's. In 1970 he founded the Museum of Conceptual Art, both a studio and forum for conceptual art, and ran it until 1984 after which its archives became part of the Berkeley Art Museum's collection. As a prototype for alternative art spaces, the Museum of Conceptual Art presented groundbreaking installation and performance art.

Perhaps his best known work, Marioni's social artwork, *The Act of Drinking Beer with Friends is the Highest Form of Art* was first performed in 1970 and he continues to recreate it in public contexts (including museums) internationally.

Marioni's work has been shown around the world and is recognized for opening possibilities for new genres of art. The important exhibitions *Out of Actions: Between Performance and the Object* (Los Angeles MOCA 1998), *The Third Mind: American Artists Contemplate Asia* (the Guggenheim Museum in NY) and *On Line: Drawing through the Twentieth Century* (MoMA, New York).